

# Type specimens in the bird collection at Lubango, Angola

by W. R. J. Dean, Ursula Franke, Grant Joseph, Francisco M. Gonçalves,  
Michael S. L. Mills, Suzanne J. Milton, Ara Monadjem &  
H. Dieter Oschadleus

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**SUMMARY.**—Details pertaining to 22 avian holotypes, and one topotype, held in the bird collection of the Instituto Superior de Ciências da Educação, in Lubango, Angola, are presented. Not all of the taxa discussed here are currently treated as valid by at least some checklists or other keynote works.

A number of avian taxa were described by R. K. Brooke, P. A. Clancey, M. P. S. Irwin, W. J. Lawson and A. A. Rosa Pinto from specimens collected in Angola. All of this type material is housed in the bird collection at the Instituto Superior de Ciências da Educação (ISCED) in Lubango, Angola (see Mills *et al.* 2010). There has been some concern as to the whereabouts of these types and their safety—it was thought that the bird collection may have been damaged during the long civil war in Angola, but in fact it is still intact and accessible.

In June 2008, a team comprising the authors of this note spent two weeks cataloguing the bird collection at Lubango (Mills *et al.* 2010). Due to time constraints, only about one-third of the specimen data were captured electronically, but almost all of those catalogue cards for which the data were not captured were digitally photographed, and subsequently used to complete, as far as possible, the catalogue of the collection (some cards were overlooked so the catalogue remains incomplete). In addition to collecting basic data on the specimen labels, we recorded any additional label notes. The 22 name-bearing types, all holotypes, in the collection are not labelled conventionally with a separate red label, but are noted (in red pen or pencil) to be type specimens. Of great concern is that the holotype material in the collection at ISCED is not housed in separate locked storage, but is placed with conspecifics in specimen drawers in the rather crowded collection room (which houses both avian and mammalian material), meaning that there is some potential for type material to be damaged.

The collection also contains 34 specimens of four species labelled 'paratipo' (= paratype), two specimens labelled 'alotipo' (= allotype) and 90 specimens of 15 species labelled 'topotipo' (topotypes). Details of all holotypes are given below, along with those of one of the topotypes, *Francolinus squamatus schuetti*, which is discussed because of its potential significance in establishing the taxon's type locality. Details of the paratypes and other topotypes can be obtained from the senior author on request.

## List of types

Taxonomy and order, with one exception, follows Dean (2000). Abbreviations: c/no = specimen catalogue numbers, OD = original description.

### Phasianidae

*Francolinus squamatus schuetti* Cabanis, 1880, *J. Orn.* 28: 351.

A single adult male in the ISCED collection (c/no 27737), from Mwaoka (07°37'S, 20°52'E), Lunda Norte, Angola, 24 July 1964, collected by 'Sanjinge' is labelled as being a topotype.

The holotype (ZMB 24636), collected by Otto Schütt, on an unknown date, is in the Museum für Naturkunde of the Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany (Steinheimer & Dean 2007). There is much uncertainty as to where Schütt collected the holotype (Steinheimer & Dean 2007) so the ISCED specimen may be relevant to further research into this question.

### Musophagidae

*Corythaixoides concolor cuanhamae* Rosa Pinto, 1962, *Bol. Inst. Invest. Cient. Ang.* 1: 23

Holotype (c/no 1394), a male, age not given, Pereira d'Éça (now Ondjiva) (17°04'S, 15°43'E), Huíla Province (now Cunene Province), Angola, 14 April 1960, collected by A. A. Rosa Pinto. Included in *C. c. bechuanae* Roberts, 1932, by Dickinson (2003).

### Apodidae

*Apus horus fuscobrunneus* Brooke, 1971, *Durban Mus. Novit.* 9: 33

The holotype (c/no 16161) is in the ISCED collection, but is labelled *Apus t. toulsoni* (Bocage, 1877), an adult female, Rio Curoca (Rio Curoca estuary at Tombua, 15°43'S, 11°55'E), Moçamedes Province (now Namibe Province), Angola, 12 May 1966, collected by M. Loureiro. Recognised by Dickinson (2003) as a subspecies of *A. horus* (Heuglin, 1869), *A. toulsoni* is also sometimes considered to be a local colour morph of *A. horus* (Brooke 1971).

### Meropidae

*Merops pusillus landanae* Rosa Pinto, 1972, *Mem. Trab. Inst. Invest. Cienc. Ang.* 10: 35

Holotype (c/no 29917), male not aged, Malembo (05°20'S, 12°11'E), near Lândana (now Cacongo), Cabinda Province, Angola, 31 August 1969, collected by E. Simões. A second specimen (c/no 29921), collected at the same locality on the same day and labelled as a paratype, is included in the series of measurements for specimens from Cacongo, but not specifically mentioned in the OD. Dickinson (2003) noted that *M. p. landanae* may be a synonym of *M. p. argutus* Clancey, 1967, but requires evaluation.

*Merops superciliosus alternans* Clancey, 1971, *Durban Mus. Novit.* 9: 42

Holotype (c/no 31558), adult male, Carunjamba (near Lucira, 13°57'S, 12°25'E), Moçamedes Province (now Namibe Province), Angola, 4 December 1969, collected by E. Santos.

### Picidae

*Jynx ruficollis diloloensis* Rosa Pinto, 1962, *Bol. Inst. Invest. Cient. Ang.* 1: 26

Holotype (c/no 157), adult male, Lago Dilolo (11°30'S, 22°05'E), Moxico Province, Angola, 18 August 1958, collected by A. A. Rosa Pinto. A second specimen (c/no 132), an adult female, collected at Reserva da Cameia (11°43'S, 20°48'E), Moxico Province, on 16 August 1958 by A. A. Rosa Pinto is labelled as an allotype. Included in *J. r. ruficollis* Wagler, 1850, by Dickinson (2003). Not recognised by Dowsett *et al.* (2008).

### Alaudidae

*Mirafra africana anchietae* Rosa Pinto, 1967, *Bol. Inst. Invest. Cient. Ang.* 4(2): 29

Holotype (c/no 4097), adult male, Humpata (15°01'S, 13°23'E), Huíla Province, Angola, 27 June 1962, collected by A. M. Ferreira. Included in *M. africana occidentalis* (Hartlaub, 1857) by Dickinson (2003).

*Mirafra africana irwini* Rosa Pinto, 1968, *Bonn. Zool. Beitr.* 19: 282

Holotype (c/no 16934), adult male, Rio Longa (14°36'S, 18°29'E), Cuando Cubango Province, Angola, 11 June 1966, collected by M. Loureiro. Included in *M. africana gomesi* C. M. N. White, 1944, by Dickinson (2003). Not recognised by Dowsett *et al.* (2008).

*Mirafra angolensis niethammeri* Rosa Pinto 1968, *Bonn. Zool. Beitr.* 19: 283

Holotype (c/no. 16963), male, not aged, Rio Longa (Longa) (14°36'S, 18°29'E), Cuando Cubango Province, 11 June 1966, collected by D. Mumputu (incorrectly listed as 'Mumputo' in the OD). Included in *M. angolensis antonii* B. P. Hall, 1958, by Dickinson (2003). Needs evaluation.

### Hirundinidae

*Riparia cincta xerica* Clancey & Irwin, 1966, *Durban Mus. Novit.* 8: 30

Holotype (c/no 8828), adult male, Calai, Cuangar (17°54'S, 19°46'E), Cuando Cubango Province, 1 August 1964, collected by A. A. Rosa Pinto.

### Motacillidae

*Macronyx grimwoodi cuandocubangensis* Rosa Pinto, 1968, *Bonn. Zool. Beitr.* 19: 283

Holotype (c/no 16807), adult male, Rio Longa (14°36'S, 18°29'E), Cuando Cubango Province, Angola, 8 June 1966, collected by D. Mumputu. The ISCED collection has 16 specimens labelled as being paratypes, and 19 labelled topotype; the latter all from the type locality. None of the paratypes and topotypes is specifically mentioned in the OD, although all are included in the measurement series. Not recognised by Dickinson (2003) and Dowsett *et al.* (2008), who consider the species to be monotypic.

### Turdidae

*Monticola brevipes niveiceps* Clancey, 1972, *Durban Mus. Novit.* 9: 147

Holotype (c/no 4350), adult female, Tundavala (14°50'S, 13°24'E), Huíla Province, Angola, 28 June 1963, collected by F. Nóbrega. Included in nominate *M. brevipes* (Waterhouse, 1838) by Dickinson (2003).

### Sylviidae

*Cisticola chiniana huilensis* Rosa Pinto, 1967, *Bol. Inst. Invest. Cient. Ang.* 4(2): 30

Holotype (c/no 20230), male, not aged, Lagoa Iventala (15°01'S, 13°23'E), Huíla Province, Angola, 27 July 1967 (incorrectly given as 2 July in the OD), collected by A. M. Ferreira, A. R. Pereira and L. Samahina. Included in *C. c. smithersi* B. P. Hall, 1956, by Dickinson (2003).

*Cisticola subruficapilla newtoni* Rosa Pinto, 1967, *Bol. Inst. Invest. Cient. Ang.* 4(1): 12

Holotype (c/no 4627), adult male, Major (Caraculo) (15°01'S, 12°25'E), Moçamedes (now Namibe) Province, Angola, 6 August 1963, collected by A. A. Rosa Pinto. A second specimen (c/no 4843), an adult female, collected at the same locality on 21 August 1963 by A. A. Rosa Pinto is labelled as being an allotype.

*Achaetops pycnopygius spadix* Clancey, 1972, *Durban Mus. Novit.* 9: 151

Holotype (c/no 32110), adult male, Unguéria (15°19'S, 13°32'E), Huíla Province, Angola, 20 May 1970, collected by D. Maputo.

### Platysteiridae

*Batis molitor pinto* Lawson, 1966, *Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 86: 124

Holotype (c/no 8209), adult male, Fazenda do Cuito (Moco) (12°27'S, 15°16'E), Huambo Province, Angola, 19 June 1964, collected by A. A. Rosa Pinto.

*Lanioturdus torquatus mesicus* Clancey, 1970, *Durban Mus. Novit.* 9: 8

Holotype (c/no 11168), male, not aged, Rio Nompaca, Mupanda (Omupanda) (17°08'S, 15°46'E), Huíla Province (now Cunene Province), Angola, 29 April 1965, collected by A. M. Ferreira. Treated as monotypic by Dickinson (2003).

**Timaliidae**

*Turdoides melanops angolensis* Rosa Pinto, 1967, *Bol. Inst. Invest. Cient. Ang.* 4(2): 30

Holotype (c/no 10861), female, not aged, Jau (15°14'S, 13°31'E), Huíla Province, Angola, 29 March 1965, collected by F. Nóbrega. Status uncertain; may be synonymous with nominate *T. m. melanops* (Hartlaub, 1867) (Dickinson 2003).

**Nectariniidae**

*Nectarinia fusca inclusa* Clancey, 1970, *Durban Mus. Novit.* 9: 10

Holotype (c/no 30783), male, not aged, Lucira (13°52'S, 12°31'E), Moçamedes (now Namibe) Province, Angola, 12 November 1969, collected by A. M. Ferreira. Now *Cinnyris fuscus inclusus* (Clancey, 1970) following the classification of Irwin (1999).

**Malaconotidae**

*Tchagra australis bocagei* Rosa Pinto, 1968, *Bonn. Zool. Beitr.* 19: 284

Holotype (c/no 17552), male, not aged, Cuito-Cuanavale (15°09'S, 19°10'E), Cuando Cubango Province, Angola, 30 June 1966, collected by M. Loureiro (incorrectly given as 'Loureiro' in the OD).

**Sturnidae**

*Buphagus erythrorhynchus angolensis* Rosa Pinto, 1968, *Bonn. Zool. Beitr.* 19: 285

Holotype (c/no 8907), adult male, Sambio (17°53'S, 20°04'E), Cuando Cubango Province, Angola, 3 August 1964, collected by F. Nóbrega. There are seven specimens labelled paratype, none from the type locality, and none specifically mentioned in the OD, although all included (*inter alia* with other specimens) in the measurement series. Recognised by Dowsett *et al.* (2008), but treated as monotypic by Dickinson (2003).

**Ploceidae**

*Sporopipes squamifrons pallidus* Rosa Pinto, 1967, *Bol. Inst. Invest. Cient. Ang.* 4(2): 31

Holotype (c/no 4066), male, not aged, Caraculo (15°01'S, 12°40'E), Moçamedes (now Namibe) Province, Angola, 14 June 1962, collected by A. M. Ferreira. The ISCED collection has ten specimens labelled paratype and eight labelled topotype, none from the type locality, and none specifically mentioned in the OD, although all included in the measurement series. Status uncertain; according to Dickinson (2003) the taxon may be synonymous with *S. s. squamifrons* (A. Smith, 1836).

**Fringillidae**

*Serinus citrinelloides martinsi* Rosa Pinto, 1962, *Bol. Inst. Invest. Cient. Ang.* 1: 37

Holotype (c/no 460), not aged and sexed, Kalunda (Kalunda) (12°08'S, 23°28'E), Moxico Province, Angola, 11 September 1958, collected by A. A. Rosa Pinto. However, the holotype is in fact a misidentified *S. capistratus capistratus* (Finsch & Hartlaub, 1870) and is held at ISCED under this species name. Pinto (1965) considered *S. citrinelloides martinsi* at Kalunda to be an isolated (and by implication valid) population, but there are no subsequent records of the species from eastern Angola or western Zambia. *S. citrinelloides* is an East African species, and the nearest records to Kalunda are from north-east Zambia (Dowsett *et al.* 2008).

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- Addresses:* W. R. J. Dean, Grant Joseph & Suzanne J. Milton, Percy FitzPatrick Institute, DST/NRF Centre of Excellence, University of Cape Town, Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa, e-mail: lycium@telkomsa.net. Ursula Franke, Tal 34, 80331 Munich, Germany. Francisco M. Gonçalves, ISCED, Dept. of Natural Sciences, Rua Sarmiento Rodrigues, P.O. Box 230, Lubango, Angola. Michael S. L. Mills, A. P. Leventis Ornithological Research Institute, University of Jos, P.O. Box 13404, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria, and Percy FitzPatrick Institute, DST/NRF Centre of Excellence, University of Cape Town, Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa. Ara Monadjem, Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Swaziland, Private Bag 4, Kwaluseni, Swaziland. H. Dieter Oschadleus, Animal Demography Unit, Dept. of Zoology, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7701, South Africa.